



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250
Ag Statistics Hotline: 1-800-727-9540 • www.nass.usda.gov



Media Contact: USDA-NASS West Virginia Statistical Office, Charleston, WV 25305, or call
1 (800) 535-7088 or E-mail at nass-wv@nass.usda.gov.

September 22, 2006

AUGUST RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA - Commercial red meat production during August 2006 totaled 400,000 pounds. This was down 12 percent from August 2005 and up 45 percent from July 2006 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 545,000 pounds live weight, down 21,000 pounds from August 2005. Cattle slaughter totaled 500 head, the same as the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,099 pounds, was up 8 pounds from a year ago.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 255,000 pounds live weight, down 6,000 pounds from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 1,000 head, the same as August 2005. The average live weight, at 264 pounds, was up 12 pounds from the previous year.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter totaled 8,000 pounds live weight, down 4,000 pounds from last year. Sheep and lamb slaughter totaled 100 head, the same as August 2005. The average live weight, at 112 pounds, was down 15 pounds from the previous year.

UNITED STATES - Commercial red meat production totaled 4.24 billion pounds in August, up 4 percent from the 4.10 billion pounds produced in August 2005.

Beef production, at 2.44 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.13 million head, up 5 percent from August 2005. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,275 pounds.

Veal production totaled 14.2 million pounds, 4 percent above August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 66,700 head, up 2 percent from August 2005. The average live weight was unchanged last year, at 347 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.77 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.09 million head, 1 percent above August 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 263 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.6 million pounds, was down 5 percent from August 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 227,000 head, 1 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, down 5 pounds from August a year ago.

January to August 2006 commercial red meat production was 31.3 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 1 percent.

August 2005 contained 23 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

August 2006 contained 23 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.nass.usda.gov.